

Testimony for House Bill 96
Senate Education Committee
May 12, 2025
Marisa Nyerges, Parent and Resident

Chair Andrew Brenner, Vice Chair Bill Blessing, Ranking Member Catherine Ingram, and members of the Education committee of the Ohio Senate:

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Marisa Nyerges. I am a parent in the Forest Hills School District, and I am an active volunteer in our school community.

I am in support of fully funding Ohio's public schools in the budget bill. My husband and I chose to move to Forest Hills because of the outstanding schools in the community. We moved to the district almost 9 years ago. I am concerned about the local burden already placed on our community to support our public school district. We recently passed a levy, however I don't know that our community can continue to support additional costs year after year.

My children are thriving in our local public school. Our school community is able to develop relationships with all the families in the building and offer my children the individual support they need to succeed. I often volunteer in the schools, and it allows me the chance to connect with their teachers and provide additional support that they need to be the best teachers possible.

In addition, the opportunities our students have access to in our public schools are incredible. From athletics to arts and more, students have a wide range of opportunities outside of just academics to support a strong career in the future. My oldest is thriving in music and the arts, and will be performing in her middle school musical this weekend.

Also, I am an active member of my child's school Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), and we work very hard to ensure all students in our school have the supplies and resources they need. We would not be able to sustain fundraising at even higher levels should state funding drop further. As I stated earlier, my husband and I chose to live in this community because of the high quality schools. We know that a strong public school creates a strong community: they support our property values; our local businesses; and our future workforce.

Again, I ask you to consider families like mine when you consider the public education budget, and specifically that you fully fund the Fair School Funding Plan. I appreciate the

opportunity to submit testimony and your time. Please consider the millions of students who attend and depend upon their public schools. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marisa Nyerges